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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 530  
By Davis L

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Fred and Kim Miller for their strong support of the "Nurses for Newborns" program.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize exemplary athletes and their families, who generously contribute to the public good; and

WHEREAS, Fred Miller, star Tennessee Titans offensive tackle, and his wife Kim, have founded a Nashville chapter of the excellent "Nurses for Newborns" program; and

WHEREAS, headquartered in Afton, Missouri, "Nurses for Newborns" is a non-profit organization designed to provide a safety net for families most at risk by helping to prevent infant mortality, child abuse and neglect through in-home nursing visits that provide health care, education and positive parenting skills; and

WHEREAS, the Millers will make an 800,000 dollar two-year grant to fund the start-up costs of the program in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Kim Miller will also serve as the non-paid Executive Director of this outstanding program; and

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WHEREAS, the Millers deep commitment to the program started six years ago when Fred played for the St. Louis Rams, the city where the program began; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville chapter will be a prototype in trying to expand this program to other cities across the country; and

WHEREAS, "Nurses for Newborns" will make its first home visit in September 2002, with one full-time nurse, with hopes to expand the program to five nurses within the next year; and

WHEREAS, while the program will vary in individual application, all mothers will receive at least one home visit from an experienced newborn nursery or obstetric nurse; and

WHEREAS, home visits will be designed to teach parents about infant health care, parenting skills, signs and symptoms of illness of an infant, infant CPR, and home safety; and

WHEREAS, the organization will also connect families to resources within the community that specifically fit the family's needs; and

WHEREAS, "Nurses for Newborn" plans to make 3,500 home visits during its first year of operation; and

WHEREAS, K. S. "Bud" Adams, Tennessee Titans Owner and Founder, commented that: "My wife Nancy and I have made a commitment to Tennessee through the Titans Foundation to try to make a difference in the lives of those in need. It's nice to know our players and their families share our commitment. The Millers' financial contribution, as well as the dedication of Kim to personally administer the program, is one of the largest commitments ever made by one of my players."; and

WHEREAS, Paul Tagliabue, Commissioner of the National Football League, said: "We are pleased to see Fred Miller follow the example of other NFL players who make a difference in the lives of people in their communities. We applaud Fred and his wife, Kim, for providing significant resources, money and time, to support this important effort."; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Diamond, Tennessee Titans President and Chief Executive Officer, praised the Millers, saying: "The Titans are very pleased and excited about Fred and Kim

Miller's substantial commitment of their time and money to launch the "Nurses for Newborns" program in our area. This program will address the serious problem of the need for medical follow-up for babies after they leave the hospital. The Millers will be at the forefront of this effort and we salute them for their involvement."; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Fisher, Tennessee Titans Head Coach, said: "Fred and Kim Miller's contribution to the community through the "Nurses for Newborns" program is tremendous. Not only is their financial commitment generous, but the mission of the program addresses a real need."; and

WHEREAS, Gene Upshaw, Executive Director of the NFL Players Association, commented: "I commend Fred and his wife on their great personal and financial commitment to this worthy cause."; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to honor Fred and Kim Miller for their generous contributions to the Nashville area's newborn children and their families; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Fred and Kim Miller, exceptional "Tennessee Volunteers," and wish them well in their noble efforts to bring the "Nurses for Newborns" program to Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.